

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

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Washington's minorities show large long-term increases

OLYMPIA – The racial and Hispanic population projections released by the Office of Financial Management today show that as the state population reaches 8.5 million in 2030—nearly one in three residents will be a minority.

The Office of Financial Management prepares population projections to anticipate changes, budget expenditures and policy concerns.

The White population is projected to grow from 5,081,700 to about 6,836,300 - a 34.5 percent increase. Minority groups all show notably faster growth rates.

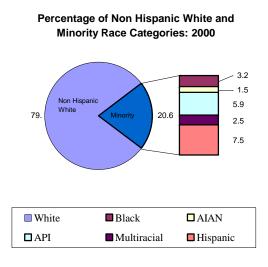
- The Asian and Pacific Islander and Hispanic populations will continue to be the largest and fastest growing minority groups. The Asian and Pacific Islanders are projected to increase by 132 percent over the same period to reach 825,000 by the year 2030. The Hispanic population is expected to grow 150 percent, from 441,509 in 2000 to about 1,099,500 in 2030.
- The most rapidly growing racial group is the "Two or More Races" category, which may have an increase of 160 percent. Its population is projected to grow from 160,500 in 2000 to 419,500 in 2030.
- Growth rates for the Black and Indian and Alaska Natives are less that half that of the faster growing groups. The Black population is expected to reach 317,800 by 2030 with a 60 percent growth rate. The American Indian and Alaska Native population is projected to increase 50.1 percent to 146.000 by 2030.

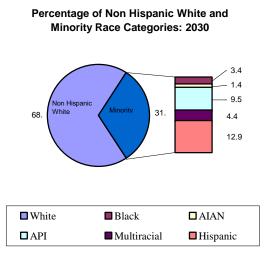
Washington State Population and Population Change By Race/Ethnicity (in Thousands)

•		RACE					ETHNICITY
	TOTAL	White	Black	Alaska Native & American Indian	Asian & Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	Hispanic Origin
2000	5,894.1	5,081.7	199.2	96.9	355.8	160.5	441.5
2010	6,811.2	5,712.9	246.2	113.8	516.4	222.0	651.0
2020	7,725.4	6,328.7	285.2	131.8	671.7	308.0	871.8
2030	8,544.7	6,836.3	317.8	145.9	825.2	419.5	1,099.5
Percent Change per Ten Year Interval							
2010	15.56	12.42	23.59	17.40	45.12	38.35	47.45
2020	13.42	10.78	15.87	15.79	30.09	38.71	33.93
2030	10.61	8.02	11.42	10.74	22.86	36.21	26.11
Growth 2000-2030							
Number	2,650.6	1,754.5	118.6	49.0	469.4	259.0	658.0
Percent	44.97	34.53	59.57	50.53	131.93	161.40	149.04

From 2000 to 2030, Washington's Non Hispanic White population will decline as a share of the state's total population from 79 percent to 68 percent—a drop of 11 percentage points.

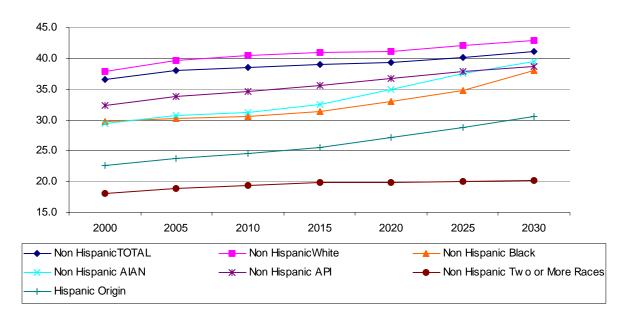
During the same period the minority population is expected to grow from 21 percent to 32 percent of the total population. Hispanics as a share of the total population increase from 7 percent to 13 percent and Asian and Pacific Islanders grow from 6 percent to 9 percent. High immigration is the major contributor for the fast growth of Asian and Pacific Islander populations. The rapid increase of Hispanics is due to high fertility as well as large migration volume.



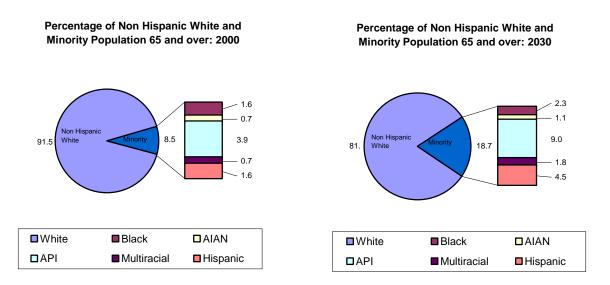


Minorities have a considerably younger age structure than the Non Hispanic White and the general population as a whole. This is because births and immigrants—largely young and labor-force-age—play a more prominent role in minority growth. However, all minorities show signs of aging through the projection period. The differences between the median age for each racial group decline by 2030. The single exception is the Multiracial population. This group, newly defined in the 2000 federal census, is expected to age less since their growth is assumed more likely to be the result of interracial marriages.

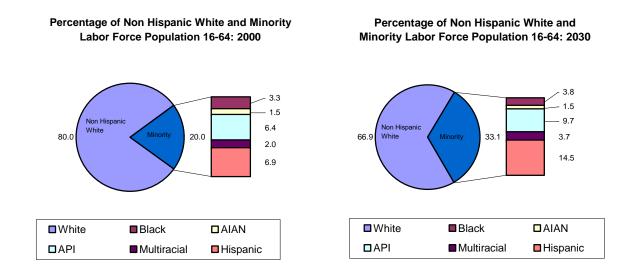




One of the most pressing national and state issues is our aging population. As the oldest of the post-World War II baby boomers turn age 60 in 2006, Washington's age 65 and over population will increase by one million by 2030. Nearly one in five persons will be age 65 and over. Moreover, with the aging of minorities, by 2030, nearly one in five elderly persons will be a minority.



The baby boom population is now poised and ready to move into their sunset years. Forty three percent of Washington's workforce age population in 2000 will be of retirement age or older in 2030. While minorities currently represent about 20 percent of the present workforce age population, by 2030 the proportion minority is expected to approach 33 percent.



Detailed information on the March 2006 Racial and Hispanic Population projection is on the Office of Financial Management web page at www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/race/projections.asp

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Note: Race, minority, and ethnic estimates and forecasts should be interpreted with caution. Census data on race and ethnic status are based on respondents' self-identification that may change over time. Definitions and collection procedures have also changed. This limits the reliability of birth, death, and migration trends used to develop population forecasts.